

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 456 910

PS 029 753

TITLE A Creative Look at Quality: A Picture of Quality Criteria for Childcare Centres. [Videotape].

INSTITUTION Resource and Training Centre for Childcare, Ghent (Belgium).

SPONS AGENCY Bernard Van Leer Foundation, The Hague (Netherlands).

PUB DATE 2001-00-00

NOTE Op.; Also funded by Child and Family (Kind en Gezin), Flanders, Belgium.

AVAILABLE FROM VBJK/Training and Resource Centre for Childcare, Bellevue 22, B-9050 Gent, Belgium (21-minute videotape). Tel: 0032-9-232-47-35; Fax: 0032-9-232-47-50; e-mail: jan.peeters@rug.ac.be.

PUB TYPE Non-Print Media (100)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.

DESCRIPTORS *Caregiver Child Relationship; *Child Caregivers; Criteria; *Day Care; Day Care Centers; Early Childhood Education; Evaluation Criteria; Foreign Countries; Program Evaluation; Psychometrics; *Standards; Videotape Recordings

IDENTIFIERS Belgium; *Day Care Quality

ABSTRACT

Noting the pervasive concern for the quality of services for young children, this videotape presents examples of high quality childcare services, based on a Belgian instrument for evaluating quality in private child care centers. The observation scale is designed to examine the relationship between child care worker and child by observing the child care activities in five situations: greeting children and their parents, mealtime situation, care and toilet training, naptime and quiet time, and supervision of activities and the toy situation. The items for each situation are rated on a 4-point scale (1, 3, 5, and 7), with 7 being considered very high quality care. The videotape features situations in which a score of 7 was assigned. The accompanying manual (a small brochure) describes the observation scale and its development and psychometric qualities. In addition, the manual discusses how the videotape can be used in training and includes discussion suggestions for each of the five situations. The following individual criteria are discussed, including questions about the videotape and questions to be considered: (1) individualization; (2) flexibility; (3) stimulation; (4) structure; (5) independence; and (6) safety. (KB)

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